

Message Text

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SUBJECT: SUGAR -- SOVIET RESERVATIONS TO 1977 AGREEMENT

1. FOLLOWING IS ISO TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF REMARKS MADE
BY REPRESENTATIVE OF USSR (POLEZOHAEV) AT INAUGURAL
SESSION OF INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT 1977.
BEGIN QUOTE.

"THE DELEGATION OF THE USSR DEEMS IT NECESSARY TO RECALL
THAT AT THE TIME OF SIGNING AND DEPOSITING THE INSTRU-
MENTS OF ACCEPTANCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT
OF 1977 THE FOLLOWING RESERVATION WAS MADE ON BEHALF OF
THE SOVIET UNION WHICH IS SIMILAR TO THE RESERVATION MADE
BY THE USSR TO THE INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT OF 1968.

"IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT IN VIEW OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC
SYSTEM OF THE USSR THE PROVISIONS OF THOSE ARTICLES
OF THE AGREEMENT WHICH RELATE TO THE LIMITATION OF
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PRODUCTION, SUGAR STOCKS, AND SUB-
SIDISING OF PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS ARE NOT APPLICABLE
TO THE USSR."

IN THIS CONNECTION THE DELEGATION OF THE USSR DRAWS
ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THIS RESERVATION, PARTICULARLY
WHERE IT CONCERNS STOCKS, RELATES, AS INDEED THE EARLIER
RESERVATION DID, TO ALL ASPECTS OF STOCKS, INCLUDING

THEIR ESTABLISHMENT AND FINANCING."

END QUOTE.

STATEMENT CONCLUDED WITH USUAL SOVIET DECLARATIONS ON PARTICIPATION OF EC, REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND DEPENDENT TERRITORIES.

2. TEXT OF SOVIET RESERVATION IS SIMILAR IN WORDING TO RESERVATION MADE TO 1968 ISA. MAJOR TEXTUAL DIFFERENCE IS 1968 RESERVATION REFERRED TO "MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM STOCKS OF SUGAR".

3. IN JANUARY 17 COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF USSR RESERVATION UNDER AGENDA ITEM CONCERNING RESERVATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 78 PARA 2, COUNCIL CHAIRMAN (EL-BOUS OF EGYPT) POINTED OUT THAT WHILE RESERVATION IS SIMILAR IN TEXT TO 1968, BECAUSE OF SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN 1968 AND 1977 ISAS, IT MAY NOT BE SIMILAR IN EFFECT. CHAIRMAN REQUESTED USSR TO PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION ON WHICH PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARTICLE MIGHT BE AFFECTED.

4. USSR REP (AS TRANSLATED) INSISTED 1977 RESERVATION IDENTICAL TO 1968 AND THEREFORE NOT SUBJECT TO COUNCIL REVIEW. HE ARGUED THAT 1968 ISA HAD PROVISIONS FOR STOCKHOLDING AND FINANCING AND THAT ONLY METHODS ARE NEW IN 1977 ISA. HE SAID THAT "A FEW IMPORTING COUNTRIES TOOK IT UPON THEMSELVES TO OFFER TO FINANCE STOCKS",
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ADDING THESE PROVISIONS WOULD NOT APPLY TO USSR. A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING US, SAID THEY MUST CONSULT GOVERNMENTS BEFORE COMMENTING AND SUPPORTED CHAIRMAN'S REQUEST FOR FURTHER CLARIFICATION. MATTER LEFT TO MAY COUNCIL MEETING FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION.

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